

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY China

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SUBJECT Economic Information: Conditions in the
Mishan Area
25X1A

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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25X1X

REFERENCE CENTER

1. Mishan station is an important point on the Hulin Railroad. Note: 25X1A
According to the information available here, Mishan station appears to be
Gagan (131-56, 45-34). It is approximately midway between Hulin (133-38,
45-59) and Linkou (130-15, 45-17). Mishan (132-00, 45-32), the seat of the
hsien government, is eight kilometers southeast of Mishan station. Many of
the houses and buildings in this city are of Russian architecture. Mishan
has a population of nearly 16,000 Chinese, Koreans, and Soviet citizens.
2. Prior to October 1947 the Soviet Army moved approximately 200 Soviet citizens
to Mishan in two equal groups. In October around the same number moved to
Mishan. The Soviet Army forcibly evicted Chinese residents from the Russian-
type houses, in order that the Soviet citizens might occupy them.
3. The Soviet citizens now living in Mishan are given food stuffs and supplies by
the Soviet Army, and a distribution and rationing system has been established.
None of the Soviet citizens were employed as of November 1947. The general
appearance, clothing, shoes, and the mode of living of the Soviet residents
indicate that they are farmers or laborers.
4. The motive for this immigration could not be determined, but rumors in Mishan
indicate that more Soviet citizens will be moved to the city soon.
5. Commodities and foodstuffs are scarce in Mishan and Mishan station. Merchants
barter for exchange of commodities, since there is little or no use of currency.
The seizure of 70 to 90 per cent of the agricultural products and the land dis-
tribution policies initiated by the Communist Government have left the people,
particularly in the small villages of the area, in an impoverished state.
The confiscated agricultural products are transported by the Soviets to Troit-
skoye (132-02, 44-50) [Novo Troitskoye (133-02, 44-06)].
The farming conditions have deteriorated considerably since the inauguration of
the Communist land distribution policy. Previously the land was tilled by tenant
farmers who received from the landowner fertilizer, horses, carts, cattle and
some implements in return for a percentage of the produce. For the past several
years no fertilizer or new implements have been available. Horses and carts have
been confiscated by the Communist and Soviet forces, and the farmers are unable
to till the land. The result of these conditions is that the land is losing its
productivity; the agricultural yield per paddy has decreased noticeably. Many of
the farmers are moving from the Mishan area to the Hulin and Linkou areas, while
others have banded together to rob neighboring districts and Communist storehouses.

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Auth: DIA Memo, 4

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